

Republika ng Pilipinas  
(Republic of the Philippines)  
KAGANAPAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS)  
UL Complex, Pasig, Metro Manila

August 3, 1973

DECS O R D E R  
No. 30, s. 1973

DECS PROGRAM FOR PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

To: Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
School Superintendents  
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. Declaration of Policy. One of the provisions in the Universal Declaration of Children's Rights states that the child shall enjoy protection and shall be given opportunities and facilities by law and by other means to enable him to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually in a healthy and normal manner in a condition of freedom and dignity. Pursuant to this provision, the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) has a preschool education program for pupils in the public and private sectors. DECS has issued policies encouraging the public sector to organize preschool classes as provided in BPS Memorandum No. 23, s. 1971, DECS Order No. 24, s. 1972, and DECS Order No. 41, s. 1968. It has also issued DECS Order No. 107, s. 1972 which sets the standards for the organization and operation of preschools locally by private sector. Preschool education for many of our preschool children became available through the efforts of the private sector.

2. Statistics for BY 1970-1971 shows that only a very small percentage of our 3-5 year old population have access to preschool education. Of the 3,267,000 3-5 year old children, only 197,364 pupils had preschool education. Most of these children are in highly urbanized areas where parents can afford preschooling for their children.

3. In support of the effort of the DECS to provide preschool education to our children, P100 M was allocated in the General Appropriations Act of 1973. Paragraph 7 of the Special Provision of this Act states:

"7. Support to Preschool Education. The amount herein appropriated shall be used to support the preschool program of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports which shall be formulated by the Secretary of DECS. In the implementation of said program, priority shall be given to schools in economically depressed areas. The Department of Budget and Management shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Program."

4. The Preschool Program of the DECS is designed to start the institutionalization of early childhood care and development which is one of the recommendations of the EDCOM Report. This program will cover initially the preschool pupils in the identified nineteen (19) priority divisions for the President's Countryside Development Program (See Inclosure).

5. Organization of Public Preschool Classes. The aforementioned divisions will organize 1,000 public preschool classes starting school year 1993-1994 with approximately 34,000 pupils. In order to conform with Civil Service Rules and Regulations requiring teachers paid from the national funds to teach for six (6) hours, a preschool teacher is expected to handle two (2) classes with 20-30 pupils per class.

DECS will provide for the following:

- \* Basic salary of 900 teachers
- \* PERA of 900 teachers
- \* Instructional Aids and Materials
- \* Training of Teachers
- \* Monitoring and Evaluation of the Program

Teachers to be hired for the Program shall have at least six (6) units of professional subjects related to preschool education. This requirement, however, may be fulfilled through in-service training which will be conducted for the purpose.

6. Support for Preschool Pupils in Private Preschools. The preschool pupils in the private schools will receive support in the form of educational materials and some basic school supplies which will be provided for their use in the school. The teachers of these pupils will also be trained on the use of the educational materials.

a. The criteria for the selection of pupils in private schools who will benefit from the Program are:

- (1) the private schools where they are enrolled are located in the 19 depressed divisions;
- (2) pupils pay minimal tuition fees, e.g. ₱20-₱200 a month; and
- (3) the schools where they are enrolled have DECS permit to operate.

b. The number and kind of educational materials to be given as aid to learning will be based on the following considerations:

- (1) the number of pupils enrolled;
- (2) The kind and number of materials already available in the school; and
- (3) The amount of tuition fees paid.

7. This Order should be given wide and immediate dissemination for the information and guidance of all concerned.

  
ARMAND V. FABELLA  
Secretary

Incl.:  
As stated

References:  
BPS Memorandum (No. 23, s. 1971);  
DECS Orders: (Nos. 24, s. 1973 and 41, s. 1985) and  
DECS Order: (No. 107, s. 1989)

Allotment: 1-2-4--(M.O. 1-87)

To be indicated in the Periodical Index  
under the following subjects:

✓ PRESCHOOL EDUCATION  
✓ PUPILS  
✓ RULES & REGULATIONS

PRIORITY DIVISIONS FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

REGION	DIVISION
CAR	Abra Mt. Province Ifugao Benguet Kalinga-Apayao
II	Batanes
IV	Aurora Rombon
V	Masbate
VI	Antique Guimaras
VIII	Southern Leyte Diliman Eastern Samar
IX	Basilan
X	Agusan del Sur
XI	Surigao del Sur
ARMM	Sulu Tawi-Tawi